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AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION MEETING POSTPONED.

In the issue of Public Health Reports for September 22 the announcement was made that the Surgeon General would present a war program of the Public Health Service at the meetings of the American Public Health Association at Chicago October 14-17. At the request of the Surgeon General this meeting was postponed and will be held instead December 9-12. Headquarters will be, as previously announced, at Hotel Morrison, Chicago.

Further announcements will be issued by the American Public Health Association, 126 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass., and will be published in the American Journal of Public Health.

HOME NURSING SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

In an effort to reduce unnecessary calls on the overworked physicians because of the present epidemic of influenza, the Public Health Service has issued a bulletin calling upon the people of the country to learn something about the home care of patients ill with influenza. Physicians everywhere have complained of the large number of unnecessary calls they have been compelled to make because of the inability of many people to distinguish between the cases requiring expert medical care and those which could readily be cared for without a physician. With influenza continuing to spread in many parts of the country, and with an acute shortage of doctors and nurses in most communities, every unnecessary call on physicians or nurses makes it so much harder to meet the urgent needs of patients who are seriously ill.

Following is the text of the bulletin issued to the public:

"Every person who feels sick and appears to be developing an attack of influenza should at once be put to bed in a well-ventilated room. If his bowels have moved regularly, it is not necessary to give a physic; where a physic is needed, a dose of castor oil or Rochelle salts should be given.

"The room should be cleared of all unnecessary furniture, bric-a-brac, and rugs. A wash basin, pitcher and slop bowl, soap and towels should be at hand, preferably in the room or just outside the door.

"If the patient is feverish, a doctor should be called, and this should be done in any case if the patient appears very sick, or coughs up pinkish (blood stained) sputum, or breathes rapidly and painfully.

"Most of the patients cough up considerable mucus; in some there is much mucus discharged from the nose and throat. This material should not be collected in handkerchiefs, but rather on bits of old rags, or toilet paper, or on paper napkins. As soon as used, these rags or papers should be placed in a paper bag kept beside the bed.